Induction of BRAHMOS Missile

793. SHRI SHUNMUGA SUNDARAM : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to induct the Indian developed manufactured BRAHMOS missiles into the Indian Armed Forces;

(b) if so, from when and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the BRAHMOS missiles will be offered for sale to other countries?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. After a series of successive successful flight trials from ships and land based mobile launcher, Navy is inducting this missile for some of their ships.

(c) Export potential for BRAHMOS is good. Specific clearance will be sought from both the Governments of India and Russia before exports.

Recruitment in Army

†794. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of declining ratio of recruitment in traditional recruitment areas of Army;

(b) whether it is a fact that there has been a considerable decline in the number of people getting recruited in various recruitment offices in the State of Uttaranchal during the last ten years;

(c) if so, whether there is a proposal for opening of some more military schools in these areas to safeguard the military tradition; and

(d) the steps Government propose to take for promotion of recruitment in Army in such areas?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There is no declining ratio of recruitment in traditional recruitment areas of Army.

(b) The recruitment to the Armed Forces from the State of Uttaranchal has been steady since the creation of the State.

(c) At present, there is no proposal for opening of more military schools in the State of Uttaranchal.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.